



Certification and Higher Education Committee

Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the April 28, 2014 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Monday, April 28, 2014, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Chair Nancy Perkins; Jana Lapoint; William Beardsley; and Nichi Farnham (Board Members); Mark Cyr, Certification Coordinator; (Department of Education); and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate

Also present were:

Lee Anne Larsen, Sue Reed, and Morgan Dunton (DOE); Cindy Dean, UMA; Rachel Brown, USM; Beth Lorigan, Superintendent at Greenville; and Wendy Gaal, Reading Matters to Me

CALL TO ORDER

Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

UPDATES

Certification (Mark Cyr):

Mark Cyr, Certification Coordinator, updated the Committee on the following:

- The software development project is currently on hold. The department has been working with the vendor for two years and a lot of time and energy has been put into the process.
- Mark will be meeting with the Educational Testing Service (ETS) in late June to set the cut scores for secondary science Praxis II. The discontinuation of the physical science Praxis II leaves the secondary science candidate with three choices for Praxis II – physics, chemistry and general science. The general science test contains many questions that relate to knowledge of both chemistry and physics.

State Literacy Team (Lee Anne Larsen):

Lee Anne Larsen and the State Literacy Team presented a proposal to revise professional certification requirements to support strong literacy outcomes. Updating of licensing practices is a critical step toward achieving improved student outcomes. The team has been working for more than a year to study current practices and develop a proposal to inform much needed revisions to initial certification and renewal requirements. The Committee and the Literacy Team had a discussion on the proposal and will meet again at the June 30th Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting.

Higher Education (Nancy Perkins):

The Higher Education Specialist position has not been filled.

Chapter 118 (Nancy Perkins):

The mentoring group will be meeting in June and the dates will be finalized this week. At the first meeting the group will be reviewing the current outdated mentoring materials and determining what needs to be updated. They will develop a standard for reviewing materials that are available on line. The group will review other states' materials. The mentoring group will consist of the following members: Nancy Perkins, Bill Beardsley, Shirley Spaulding, Doug Spaulding, Crystal Polk, and Mary Paine. Committee members Jana Lapoint and Nichi Farnham will participate when available.

Title II Reporting:

The Committee received a link to the Title II Federal report for the status of higher education institutions. Nancy has invited Amy Johnson, Title II Instructional Liaison, to attend the May 27th meeting for a presentation to the committee.

Handouts:

- Literacy Team Memo with Recommendations to Revise Professional Certification Requirements to Support Strong Literacy Outcomes
- Proposal to Revise Professional Certification Requirements to Support Strong Literacy Outcomes
- Appendix A – Proposed Course Work for Revised Teaching Certifications

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held in room 541 of the Cross State Office Building.

Adjournment:

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM.